



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

AUG 19 2004

Ms. Lynn Fusco
Treasurer
Friends of Joe Lieberman
P.O. Box 4322
State House Square
Hamden, CT 06514

RE: MUR 5279

Dear Ms. Fusco:

On June 22, 2004, the Federal Election Commission entered into a conciliation agreement with Charles Kushner and 40 Associated Partnerships regarding over \$500,000 in improper federal political contributions. These contributions, some of which were made to your Committee, violated Commission partnership contribution regulations because the partnership failed to obtain the agreement of the partners to whom the contributions were attributed, pursuant to 11 C.F.R. § 110.1(e)(2). The contributions found to be in violation were made between December 5, 1997 and August 17, 2000 for the 1999-2000 election cycle. See Attached List.

Friends of Joe Lieberman Committee was not a respondent in this matter. The Commission reminds you, however, that the treasurer of a political committee is responsible for examining all contributions received by the political committee for evidence of legality. 11 C.F.R. § 103.3(b). Contributions that present genuine questions as to whether they were made by legal sources may be deposited into a campaign depository or returned to the contributor. If any such contribution is deposited, the treasurer shall make his or her best efforts to determine the legality of the contribution. 11 C.F.R. § 103.3(b)(1). If the treasurer determines that at the time a contribution was received and deposited, it did not appear to be illegal, but later discovers that it is illegal based on new evidence not available to the political committee at the time of receipt and deposit, the treasurer shall refund or disgorge the contribution within thirty days of the date on which the illegality was discovered. 11 C.F.R. § 103.3(b)(2). See AO 1996-5.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Dutt".

Kathleen Dutt
Attorney

Enclosure
Contributor's List

**Friends of Joe Lieberman
(Contributions)**

| Contributor | Partnership/LLC | Date | Recipient Committee | Amount |
|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------|
| Tawil, Ralph | Harbor-Island Realty Assoc. LP | 2/14/2000 | Friends of Joe Lieberman | \$1,000 |